

# ***YOU'VE SEEN WHAT HAPPENED IN WISCONSIN.***

## ***MICHIGAN COULD BE NEXT!***

While Wisconsin passed sweeping legislation to eliminate collective bargaining rights for all public employees. Michigan's legislature and governor are poised to vote on a long list of anti-labor bills affecting all Michigan school employees. This back door strategy will cause death by a thousand cuts.

Here's just some of what we are facing:

**House Bill 4152** has already passed the House and is being considered in the Senate. It would require that, once a contract expires, all step increases will be frozen, employees will have to pick up all costs of insurance increases and **negotiations concerning any retroactive increases will be illegal.**

**House Bill 4052** would amend the Public Employment Relations Act (PERA) to prohibit public employees or their unions from using any school facilities or equipment for union activities. The sponsor is Rep. Al Pscholka, R-Stevensville.

**House Bill 4140** would create a state-run health insurance plan for public employees. This proposal would cost \$870 million to set up and would not guarantee any savings.

**House Bill 4142** would amend tenure law. Probationary teachers rated ineffective would not earn tenure. **Tenured teachers rated "ineffective" for two consecutive years may have to serve another four-year probationary period.**

**House Bill 4054** would amend PERA to allow public schools and other governmental entities to create a "Right to Work Zone" by a vote of the governing body.

**House Bill 4059** would prohibit release time for union officers or bargaining representatives to conduct union business if the release time is paid for by the public employer.

**House Bill 4141** would create a new state commission of political appointees to study consolidation of non-instructional services in all public schools. Based on the recommendations, the state could then order service consolidation.

**House Bill 4306 H1** The latest version of House Bill 4306 would require districts to solicit bids for the jobs but falls short of mandating they fire employees and hire private companies to do their work instead.

**Senate Joint Resolution B** would place a constitutional revision before voters to **cut public employee pay by 5 percent and freeze that rate for three years.** The resolution will require a 2/3 majority vote in each chamber.

**Senate Bill 0007** would prohibit public employers from paying more than 80 percent of the total cost of the medical benefit plans (including medical, dental, and optical) for employees.

**Governor's Budget Proposal** would cut school districts' foundation grants by at least \$470 per pupil. This would have a devastating impact on your school district's budget. It would **raise your taxes** by taxing pension benefits, eliminate your \$3,600 exemption for each individual, eliminate senior citizens' homestead and special tax exemptions as well as tax credits to certain charities including contributions to educational institutions and earned income tax credits. This amounts to a tax on old people and poor people. The Governor plans to use this tax increase to cut taxes on business.

SEE THE REVERSE SIDE TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP THIS ATTACK ON YOUR LIVELIHOOD.

## **Plan of Action:**

1. Contact your legislators and tell them to vote "NO" on these anti-labor, anti-school employee bills. Call them or use your **personal** email accounts. It is suggested that you contact them at least daily until this crisis is over. Email them when you boot up your computer at the start of the day and email them again just before you shut your computer down at the end of the day. Call their offices when you can as well.

**79<sup>th</sup> District Representative Al Pscholka** AIPscholka@house.mi.gov

Phone: Toll Free: (888) 656-0079

MAILING ADDRESS  
N-1098 House Office Building  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

**78<sup>th</sup> District Representative Sharon Tyler** SharonTyler@house.mi.gov

Toll Free: (888) 373-0078

MAILING ADDRESS  
N-1098 House Office Building  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

**21<sup>st</sup> District Senator John Proos** senjproos@senator.michigan.gov

517-373-6960

Post Office Box 30036  
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

2. Be prepared to attend local association meetings to plan additional local and state strategies. These meetings may include a survey vote to determine you local's willingness to give MEA the authority to initiate "crisis activities" up to an including a state-wide job action.
3. Be prepared to engage in an assorted set of activities both at the local level and in Lansing.

Folks, this threat are real and could happen soon. In all my years with MEA I have never seen anything that could be so devastating to members. Please consider all of this to be a serious emergency.

Mike Schroeder, 5C MEA UniServ Director

Please contact me if you have any questions.

[mschroeder@mea.org](mailto:mschroeder@mea.org)

269-471-7705 or 1-800-332-4383